of Haryana. The estimated cost of this phase is Rs. 624 crores . An amount of Rs. 61.14 crores has been released to the State Governments for completion of 20 schemes sanctioned under this Plan so far. These schemes are under various stages of progress. In addition to the above, the Government of the NCT of Delhi has also taken up large scale sewerage, non-sewerage and sewage treatment works out of its own Plan funds.

While the water quality of river Yamuna is within the prescribed limits in the State of Haryana, it has not shown the desired improvement in Delhi and some parts of U.P. because of phenomenal increase of population upstream of the river and lack of availability of fresh water for ensuring minimum flow in the river.

Overseas employment promotion council

*218. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up Overseas Employment Promotion Council to regulate employment;

(b) if so, the detaisls thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes , Sir. The Government proposes to set up a "Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment" (CPOE) . The Council will function as a strategic 'Think Tank' for the Government and respond to the changes in the dynamic International labour market on a real time basis to identify future overseas employment opportunities, the emerging labour supply gaps and country/sector specific skill requirements, make realistic projections and plans for overseas deployment of workers, disseminate relevant information in the rural areas and implement a sustained skill upgradation programme to match the market requirement. Cabinet has approved the proposal. The council will be operational in the ensuing financial year.

(c) Question does not arise.

Preservation of Yamuna

*219. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Government of NCT of Delhi has experts' proposal how best to preserve the good old Yamuna;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal; and

(c) to what extent the proposal is feasible to be made effective and at what cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) According to the information povided by the Delhi Jal Board, Government of NCT of Delhi, it has evolved the concept of laying interceptor sewers along the three major drains in Delhi to prevent the flow of untreated sewage into the river Yamuna. The salient features of the proposal are:

(i) laying of interceptor sewers along the three major drains namely, Najafgarh, Supplementary and Shahdara;

(ii) augmentation of existing capacity of STPs at the mouth of Delhi Gate and Dr. Sen Nursing Home Drain;

(iii) interception of 13 other drains into the Bela road and Ring Road Trunk Sewers after their rehabilitation; and

(iv) construction of additional Sewage Treatment Plants after utilization of full capacity of the existing STPs.

As reported, the proposals is technically feasible as it takes care of the untreated sewage from unsewered areas and will allow only discharge of treated effluent into the river Yamuna. The tentative cost of the project is about Rs. 1300 crore.

Nepalese Stake on 'No-Man's-Land'

*220. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during December 2007 about 200 Maoist ultras from Nepal staked their claim on a stretch of 'no-man's-land' in Uttarakhand and hoisted their red flag in a town in border district of Champavat;

(b) if so, whether the border-pillars are not existing in this area; and

(c) whether Government would conduct a joint survey between Nepal and India to demarcate the border so that such incidents do not recur and border-pillars are duly fixed to identify Indo-Nepalese border?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The India-Nepal boundary has been primarily established on the basis of the Treaty of Sugauli of 1815 and the subsequent Memorandum of 1816 as amended and confirmed by the Treaty of 1860. The open border with Nepal extends over an estimated length of 1900 kilometres.

Strip map surveys of 99% of the border and identification of 97.7% of the boundary on the ground has been completed. Boundary strip maps have been printed for all segments of the boundry that have been identified and have also been signed at the level of the Joint Technical Committee (JTC) on boundary matters. It has been further decided to set up an inter-Government Boundary Working Group as successor to the JTC, to *inter alia* delineate boundary line in the remaining sectors, and undertake inspection, construction, maintenance, and repair of boundary pillars.

On December 25, 2007, activists of the Young Communist League (YCL) of Nepal, an organisation affiliated to the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), attempted to cross-over from Kanchanpur district of Nepal into the Indian territory near Banbasa in Champawat district of Uttarakhand, where border pillar positions have been jointly agreed to. The Indian border guarding forces, already on alert, took appropriate action to repulse the YCL activists.